

(A NON-PROFIT - NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

EDITORS:

AGNES GOSPODNETIĆ MIFSUD NINA MATULICH

SUMMER 2012

WE HONOR ESPECIALLY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL THE BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY IN THE U.S.A. WHO OFFER THEIR LIVES FOR JUSTICE. LIBERTY AND PEACH.....





Many thanks go out to those who attended the Lamb Shank Dinner, held April 14, 2012 at the Watsonville Woman's Club. There was 146 adults, 3 children served, and 7 takeouts. Many thanks go out to the helpers: Nina Matulich on reservations, Helen Marinovich Ukestad and Norma Hansen on raffle tickets, Mary Marinovich Siefke on drink tickets, Agnes Gospodnetic' Mifsud on decorations, dessert serving with the help of Lizz Matulich Hunter. Calling out the raffle numbers were Agnes and Mike Mifsud. More thanks go out to the bartenders ~ John Vodanovich and Mike Mifsud.

We were entertained with great music by the accordion players, Herb Lundin and Joe Nannut. Thanks to all!!

STEVE BELICK

S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

PRESIDENT ~ Steve Belick ~ 477-7523

VICE-PRESIDENT ~ Peter Kovacich ~ 724-0071

TREASURER ~ Agnes Gospodnetic Mifsud ~ 637-2744

RECORDING SECRETARY ~ Linda Wathen Espejo ~ 724-2892

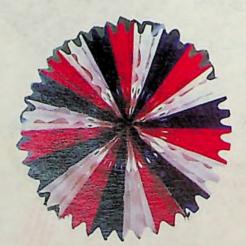
FINANCIAL SECRETARY ~ Nina Matulich ~ 724-7971

S.A.C.O. COMING EVENT

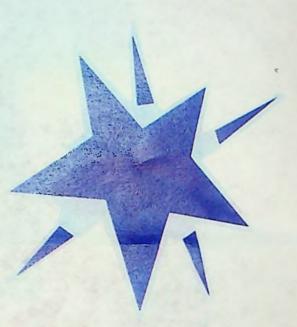
DECEMBER 8, 2012 ~ Christmas Dinner

WELCOME NEW S.A.C.O. MEMBERS

Rich & Lizz Matulich Hunter ~ Hollister, CA
David M. & Nancy Grancich Cavanaugh ~ Watsonville, CA
Herb Lundin ~ Santa Cruz, CA
Sue Bloom ~ Watsonville, CA
Frances Heick ~ Watsonville, CA
Bill & Brenda Marinovich ~ Watsonville, CA
Geneva Mehl ~ Watsonville, CA
Jim Mekis & Sara L. Cordell ~ Santa Cruz, CA
Michael A. Ostoja ~ Jacksonville, Florida









CORRESPONDENCE

Looking forward to the Bar-B-Que in July. It's always great to see so many friends. Great job with the Newsletter ~

Patsy Mills



Dear SACO,

I am writing you this letter to finally Thank You for your generous Scholarship towards my education. I have attended Gavilan College Community College since August 2011, where my course of study is Aviation. I will graduate from Gavilan in June of 2013, and will then transfer to the University of California in Santa Barbara. Since at Gavilan, I am proud to announce that I have maintained a 4.0 GPA while also playing on the Men's Basketball Team.

It is my goal to travel to Croatia in the summer of 2013 to learn more about my family's heritage. Also, I would love to obtain any information you may have that would be helpful in my travels.

Again, thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Austin D. Vojvoda 2011 Scholarship Recipient

P.S. attached you will find proof of school registration —



S.A.C.O. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ~ 2012

WATSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL IVO BASOR

Parents ~ John & Jelka Basor Grandmother ~ Luce Basor

BIANCA GERA
Parents ~ George & Meretta Gera

APTOS HIGH SCHOOL

JOHN YVANOVICH

Parents ~ Tony & Susan Yvanovich

MARCUS LASICH

Carroyatulationa



(Each of the recipients receive a \$600 scholarship from S.A.C.O.)

INFO ON CROATIAN GENEALOGY

For anyone that is interested in finding their family heritage, you can now go to this website: www.croatian-genealogy.com This website which came out in July, 2009, is in Samobar, Croatia called the "Croatian Family History & Genealogy". It contains various resources which include directory of most common Croatian surnames as well as first (given) names, the Croatian Parishes address book, news articles and educational material on how to start your Croatian Genealogy research. This site is supported by Sambrenjuk Genealogy Research, a group of dedicated genealogy specialists that offer research services for anyone whose ancestors are from Croatia or Slovenia.

Source: Croatian Chronicle - New York



Norma Hansen Karen Belick S.A.C.O. Janey Leonardich Sylvia Kusanovich Helen Marinovich Ukestad Mary Marinovich Siefke Katie Zupan Cathy Pekoch Schimpeler Gerianne Simmons Lillian Jercich Nielsen Lizz Matulich Hunter Mary Basich Judy Carey Eiskamp Ethlyn Miller Slavica Kusanovich Zalac Pat Gospodnetich Solano Mary Lipanovich Susan Radin Gallagher



Norma Hansen Anne Lukrich Dobler Steve Millich Steve Belick S.A.C.O. Nina Matulich Diane Robey Betty Kesovia Bobeda Bill Resetar Sue Bloom Hedy Claus Pat Gospodnetich Solano Katie Zupan Sharon Alaga Lillian Jercich Nielsen Lizz Matulich Hunter Frances Matuich Osorio Helen Marinovich Ukestad

Virginia Vukasovich Catherine Dabo John Vodanovich John Lukrich Bob Leonardich Sandy Jurach Frank Harris Ursula Puglizevich John Bagatella



HVALA PUNO ~ THANK YOU VERY MUCH WITH APPRECIATION!

TRAVELS TO CROATIA!!!

My name is Judy Hager and I have promised to write about my experiences visiting Croatia. I am not a good writer as I tend to ramble here, but here it goes.

I have always been interested and proud of my Croatian heritage, but time and circumstances (i.e. raising 4 children and then the war) always seemed to make it inconvenient to visit.

I have to thank my late, good friend, Andy Mekis, (which I did many times) for encouraging me to join S.A.C.O., to visit Croatia and especially introducing me to Jelka Basor (Adriatic Travel) and Villa Radović. His parents and my grandparents were good friends and he knew my mother and uncle growing up.

My grandmother, Mare Begović, came from Ston and my grandfather, Bozo Kapetanić came from Lovorna in the Konavle Valley. They met and married in San Francisco and moved to Watsonville to become a part of the thriving Slavic community. My parents (my father was an Irishman-Heaven forbid) and we lived in Santa Cruz. My childhood was filled with great memories of spending my summers in Watsonville with my grandparents and being surrounded by the loving Slavic community (I had so many Teta's). After my mother died, I finally joined S.A.C.O. and in 2007, my husband Rich, our daughter Julie and our grandson Malakai, made our first trip to Croatia to meet family, finally. Needless to say, I fell in love with the country and thoroughly enjoyed meeting my cousins (2nd, 3rd, etc.) and visiting my Begović family home and property in Ston where family has lived there since the 1300's (recorded). My grandfather's family home in the Konavle Valley was mostly destroyed except for the walls. I met and became friends with my cousin, Niko Kapetanic.

Rich and I have been going each year since, for 4-5 weeks (with various children and grandchildren meeting us there for 1-2 weeks) and we really enjoy getting to see various regions each year. There is a strong connection. It is difficult to describe unless you feel it also.

I would like to thank Jelka Basor (Adriatic Travel) for completely planning our first trip to Croatia, plane tickets, Villa Radović accomodations, car rental and she even contacted my cousin's wife at her beauty shop to let them know that we were coming and got their home phone numbers. I was very nervous and she made everything go smoothly. So, if you want to travel, let Jelka do the work for you. She is the greatest!

Villa Radović is the perfect place to stay. It is in Cavtat, which is a great seaside village about 15 miles south of Dubrovnik and 15 miles north of Konavle. Pero and Anita Radović are great hosts and made us feel like family each year that we returned. I cannot come home without several bottles of the best olive oil in the world from the Radovic farm in Cilipi.

This past summer, we visited the Island of Brace for the first time on our way to the Plitvice Lakes for the first time. We stayed at a delightful bed and breakfust owned by Anka Baloevic (cousin to Nina Matulich and Frances Matulich Osorio) in the town of Supetar. Her family made us feel very welcomed (we came home with homemade Orahovitz (wolsut liquer) and we hope to stay there again. We drove most of the island in 3 days and I had to step into the sea in the famous Zlatni Rat beach in Bol.

Being an only child and grandchild, I felt very connected to my Slavic heritage. Even though I spent every childhood summers around Slavs, I could understand the language and spoke some, but I lost it over the years.

Thanks to John Basor and his Croatian language class, I am learning it again (a bit slowly) and enjoying the friends that I have made in the class.

I encourage everyone that has not visited Croatia to do so, as it is a wonderful experience. It is a beautiful country with great food and very friendly people. When they find out that you are of Croatian heritage, you are treated with warmth!

Thank you again, dear Andy!







Bol - Zlatni rat

***** If there is anyone that has traveled to Croatia or stories of their Croatian heritage, with or without pictures and would like to share with us, please feel free to contact me ***

Agnes Gospodnetic Mifsud 1080 Brent Court Hollister, CA 95023

Home phone: 831-637-2744 Cell: 831-801-3628

A MUST SEE!!!

If there is anyone trayeling to Croatia, you would really enjoy going to the Island of Brać in the small town of "Skrip" and going to the The Brać Museum housed in the white roofed house known as Radojković, a must-see for every visitor to Brać. Skrip is the oldest settlement on the island. The Illyrians settled there in the 11th century and it is from those days that Skrip had become an Illyrian settlement at the location of the cemetary today. The museum has a rich collection: it has a lot of antique pieces from the pre-historical times of the Brać islands. It exhibits the stonemasonry, ethnographical collection, various tools, lapidary, photographs, pictures, books, monuments, archeological remains and artifacts of many periods, well worth seeing.

It is the whole of Brać in itself and it represents a very heart of the authentic island.







CROATIAN PHRASES

Here are some Croatian phrases to help you communicate while you are traveling to Croatia *****

Croatian

Dobro jutro
Dobar dan
Dobra većer
Laku noć
Hvala
Kako ste?
Dobro
Ovo nije lošhe!
Kako se zoveš?
Moje ime je...
Dobar tek
Oprostite

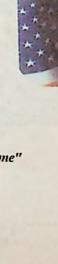
Nema problema U redu je! Molim

Shto radish?
Nishta, odmaram
Dobro mirishi!
Ajmo na piche
Gdje se mozhe kupiti dobro
vino/rakija?
Adio!
Gdje je dobro more za plivanje?
Kud chesh?
Ostani josh malo

English

Good morning

Good afternoon Good evening Good night Thank you How are you? Good This is not bad! What's your name? My name is ... Enjoy your meal/bon appetite Excuse me (can be used to get someone's attention, get past someone or to apologize) No problem It's okay Please (also used for "you're welcome" response to Hvala What are you doing? Nothing, I am relaxing Smells good! Lets go get a drink Where can one buy good wine/brandy? See you later! Where is there a good place to swim? Where are you going? Stay a bit longer



This should be enough to get you by on your vacation! Even only the simplest greeting words are much more appreciated by the local's.



Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education

A Division of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District



MULTI-LEVEL CROATIAN CONVERSATIONAL



ZLATNI RAT, BRAC

There are many people in Watsonville and in Santa Cruz County whose ancestors came from Croatia. This class will teach basic conversational Croatian, vocabulary, conversation, greetings, and everyday expressions, as well as introduce students to the

greetings, and everyday
expressions, as well as
introduce students to the
country of Croatia, its culture (food, music, customs,
etc.), as well as the Croatian
influence in the Pajaro Valley
for over 140 years.



POSTIRA, ISLAND BRAC, CROATIA



DUBROVNIK, CROATIA



CILIPI, CROATIA

Aptos High School, (room I-104) 100 Mariner Way, Aptos Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Instructor Basor Teacher Assistant: Luci Basor

Session 1: August 22—October 10 \$90

Session 2: October 17—December 19 \$90

REGISTER TODAY!

GREEN VALLEY CENTER

294 Green Valley Road, Watsonville CA 95076 (831) 786-2160

www.waae.pvusd.net







ADRIATIC TRAVEL AGENCY
CST 101311 10

No Brennan Street
Watsonville, CA 96776
(631) 728-7768

JELEA BASOR



05959/0075



SERVICES SCURICH



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